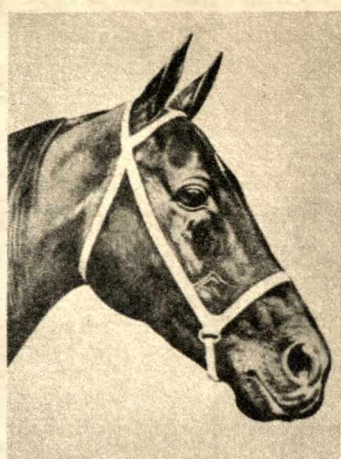


# HOW WELL DO YOU READ?

*Try this test*



*Read the following brief story, then answer the questions which follow. Correct answers and a scale for rating your reading comprehension are below.*

**P**ERHAPS THE most popular race horse of all time was Hoosier-born Dan Patch. Early in this century, when he was racing at meets and fairs throughout the country, he was more than just a fast pacer. He was a national figure.

When he was born, 66 years ago, on a December day at Kelly's livery stable in Oxford, Benton County, he wasn't a prepossessing creature. He looked awkward; his legs were too long. He had wide-set, narrow eyes, and a funny, long face that made him seem to be grinning all the time. He never outgrew these defects. Even after he had established a world's record for speed, had been sold for the fabulous price of \$60,000, he still didn't put on airs. That's why people loved him.

His first owner was Dan Messner, proprietor of a store in Oxford. The record-smashing price was paid for him years later by M. W. Savage of Minnesota, Minn.

Dan Patch's first trainer was John Wattles of Oxford who finally entered him in a race at the Benton County Fair. Dan Patch won. And from that day on he was a consistent winner.

It finally got so that Dan wasn't entered in races; he had beaten every horse in the country. So his owner ran him in exhibitions. He simply ran—alone on the track—against time.

He reached his peak at the Minnesota State Fair in 1906. That was when he ran his famous mile in 1:55. After that Dan Patch toured the country, making personal appearances.

## **Now try these questions:**

1. Dan Patch was born (a) 56 years ago, (b) 65 years ago, (c) 66 years ago, (d) 60 years ago.
2. He was born at a livery stable at (a) Osgood, (b) Bentonville, (c) Ottwell, (d) Oxford.
3. Dan Patch set his speed record at (a) Minnesota State Fair in 1905, (b) Indiana State Fair in 1904, (c) Michigan State Fair in 1907, (d) none of these.
4. Dan's first trainer was (a) Dan Kelly, (b) M. W. Savage, (c) John Wattles, (d) Dan Messner.
5. After Dan Patch had beaten every horse in the country he (a) was barred from competition, (b) raced against time, (c) was retired, (d) was raced against foreign horses.

## **ANSWERS:**

1—c; 2—d; 3—d; 4—c; 5—b.  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## **HOW DO YOU RATE?**

5, excellent; 4, average; 3, below average; 2, poor;  
1, very poor.





This is the wooden grandstand of the old Terre Haute track where gay crowds thronged during the racing season.

# Where records were made and broken

*Vigo County's forthcoming Fair has stirred fond and nostalgic memories of Terre Haute's famous "four-cornered" racing track*

**By FRANCES E. HUGHES**

**I**N RECENT weeks harness race fans around Terre Haute have been talking nostalgically about the old "four-cornered" race track, nationally famous in the glittering days around the turn of the century.

What's recalling these memories of thudding hoofs, drivers riding high-wheeled sulkies behind streaking pacers and trotters, is the forthcoming Vigo County Fair where harness racing will be a feature.

Four of the races are named in honor of horses which made racing history at the old Terre Haute track. So, naturally, everybody—and especially oldtime racing enthusiasts—gets to thinking about these horses and the gala racing period of more than half a century ago.

Next week's races, to be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, are in the Indiana Colt Stake Circuit, and entries from all over the circuit will run.

One of the races will be the Warren Park-Axtell Stake for 3-year-old trotters. It was inaugurated by Burch Ijams, son of the owner of the famous Axtell and of Warren Park Farm. The other races are named in honor of Nancy Hanks, Robert J., and The Harvester, all four were horses of their era. They made their records at the "four-cornered" track, which operated from 1887 to 1910 at the old Fair Grounds located where Memorial Stadium now stands on the east edge of Terre Haute.

The track got its nickname from

its unorthodox construction—four long stretches and four long turns—which was the only way to get a mile-long track into the available space. The corners were banked up eight feet to make them easy to round.

IT WAS a gay, colorful, sporting crowd that attended the races in those days and there was big betting. Beneath the grandstand was a bar and booths of the bookmakers.

Activity started the first of April, when traders from the South came to train for races to start in June. The racing season closed at the County Fair in September. Since climate, soil, grass and track were considered the best, it was not unusual for as many as 200 horses from all over the coun-



## On Four-Cornered Track

# Record Trotter, Pacer Runs

## Big Doings And Fast Races Marked Turn Of Century

By FRANCES E. HUGHES

Courier-Journal Special Writer

Terre Haute, Ind., Aug. 11—How could a pacer or trotter ever set a record on a four-cornered track?

Old-timers in Terre Haute know the answer to that, because at the turn of the century there was such a track here that was considered the fastest of its kind in the world.

Such famous standardbreds as Nancy Hanks, Axtell, and Robert J. made their records there in those days and Hoosiers have not forgotten.

Nor will they let visitors to the city forget, for huge oil paintings of Nancy Hanks and Axtell are hung in the lobby of the Terre Haute House, the city's largest hotel. Also, each year when the Vigo County Fair is held at the Wabash Valley Fairgrounds four stakes are named for these three record-breaking horses and for The Harvester, which was owned by a Terre Haute resident.

The mile track, where Memorial Stadium now stands in Terre Haute, was in existence from 1887 to 1910 for harness racing.

### April To September

There were four long stretches and four long turns. Corners were banked up 8 feet, making them easy to round. It was a dry-weather track. 40 carloads of clay having been hauled from nearby Clay County to cover it a year after it was built by the Terre Haute Agriculture Society.

From the first of April, when traders from the South came to train for the races which started in June, until the closing races at the County Fair in September, it was the scene of much activity. Sometimes, too, as many as 200 horses from all over the country were wintered and trained there because the climate, the soil, the grass, and track were the best.

*There was big betting there in those days, and underneath the grandstand was a bar with four or five bartenders, all kinds of gambling, and the booths of bookmakers. Charles R. Duffin was starter for most of the races, and U. R. Jeffers was track superintendent.*

The Terre Haute Trotting Association was organized in 1882, and in 1887 the Terre Haute Mile Track was opened. The height of racing at the track was from 1889 to 1910.

### \$90,000 Purses Paid

After 1910, the racing spirit in Terre Haute waned and the track was cut to a half-mile. The Grand Circuit stopped



**TIME: 70 YEARS AGO . . .** This is Nancy Hanks Day at the old four-cornered one-mile race track in Terre Haute. It was on September 28, 1892, when

there then. A Matinee Club of 100 Terre Haute people was then organized and held matinee races every Friday during the season for six years before the track was sold in 1916.

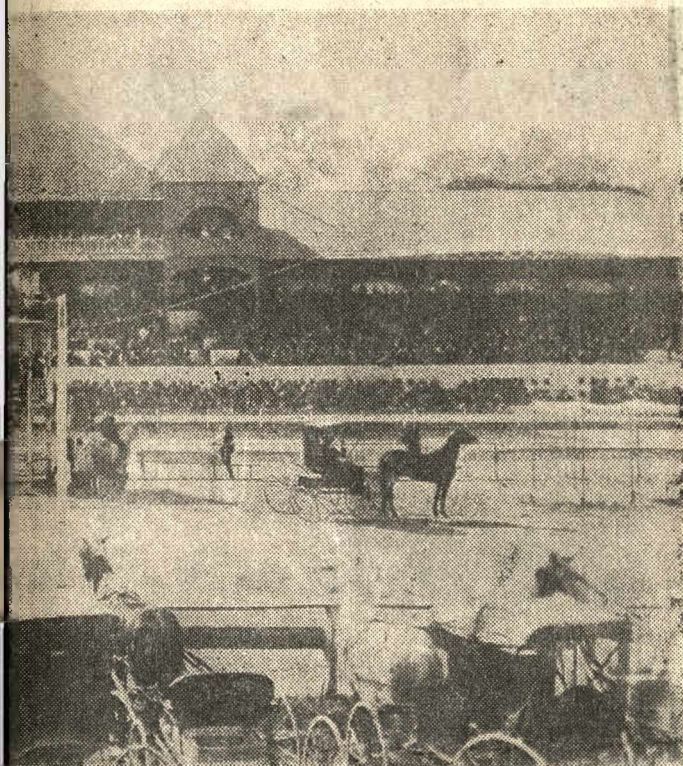
In an old history of the county, it was recorded that "No such collection of horses was ever before seen in the world's history as was that of the annual Horse Trotting As-

sociation of 1890. It was estimated that \$3,000,000 worth of horses might, on that occasion, have been seen at one time in the ring and this was not because of the great number of animals, but because of the worldwide celebrities headed by the great Terre Haute horse, Axtell."

The purse went as high as \$90,000 for a single meeting—



# Cherished In Terre Haute



Nancy Hanks established the world's trotting record of 2:04. This track was famous wherever the trotting horse was known and prized.

the largest offered anywhere at the time. Horses from all over the country competed.

Axtell, 3-year-old stallion, owned, bred, trained, and driven by Charles W. Williams of Independence, Iowa, established the world's trotting record of 2:12 for stallions on October 9, 1889, at the track. The horse was driven to a high wheel, steel-tire sulky with no windbreaks. It won every start that season and reduced the world's record for 3-year-old trotters five times from 2:18 to 2:12, its best record.

## \$105,000 Paid For Axtell

Williams had bought a lame mare, Lou, from the Highland Stock Farm in Dubuque, Iowa, for \$125 and sent it to Kentucky to be bred to the best Wilkies horse available and within his financial means. Bred to a 3-year-old colt, William L., it produced Axtell, foaled in 1886. Another mare he had bought at the same time for \$75 and sent to Kentucky, where it was bred to a blind-roan stallion, produced Allerton.

The day after Axtell's rec-

ord-breaking race at Terre Haute, it was bought for \$105,000—then the highest price ever paid for a horse of any breed—by a syndicate composed of W. P. Ijams of Terre Haute, John W. Conley of Chicago, and F. T. Moran and A. E. Brush, both of Detroit.

Axtell earned himself out in three years in stud at Ijams' Warren Park Farm, south of Terre Haute, at the unheard of (at the time) fee of \$1,000. Being one of the great family-founding sires, he sired such famous horses as Axworthy, 3, 2:15½, who in turn sired Lee Axworthy, 1:58½, for many years the world's champion trotting stallion, and Guy Axworthy, 4, 2:08¾, a stallion that figures prominently in a large percentage of our greatest performers of the present day. Most of the Axwell blood today is through Guy Axworthy.

Ijams bought out the others in the syndicate and kept the stallion retired to pasture at his farm for 13 more years. Axtell died in August, 1906, and is buried there.

Nancy Hanks, a bay filly

by Happy Medium 400 out of Nancy Lee, by Dictator 113 took the world's mile trotting record of 2:04 on September 28, 1892, at the Terre Haute track. Again Bud Doble was the driver.

Ty then, harness horses were driven to bike sulkys with pneumatic tires.

Bred by Col. Hart Boswell of Lexington, Ky., and foaled in 1886 on the farm which is now Poplar Hill Farm, near Lexington, Nancy Hanks was the first 2:05 trotter.

*A pacer, Mascot, by Deceive, matched Nancy Hanks' record the next day at the Terre Haute track, W. J. Andrews was driver. This also was a world's record.*

On September 14, 1894, Robert J., by Hartford, made a world's record of 2:01½ at the Terre Haute track, with E. F. Geers as driver. This was a 3-year-old gelding, which had beaten practically all of the celebrated pacers in the country for its age and gait.

## Dan Patch Raced

Geers also drove The Abbot, by Chimes, to a world's record of 2:03½ at the Hoosier track. Although it did not make a record there, Dan Patch, by Joe Patchen, world-champion pacer owner by Sterling R. Holt of Indianapolis and driven by H. S. Hersey, often raced at the Terre Haute track.

*There were great stock farms in Terre Haute in those days, with large sums invested in successful breeding and training of record-beating trotters and high-priced roadsters.*

Sam I. Fleming had a small farm, on which he kept two fine stallions, Margrave and Baron Review. Fleming bred, trained, and drove horses for the track. His Baron Review was the sire of Baron Virginia, which won the Kentucky Futurity one year.

Each year, he had a big sale of from 400 to 500 horses in the early spring. It was he who drove John M., the gelding owned by Demas Deming of Terre Haute, that won all 14 of the Grand Circuit \$1,000 races for green trotters in one year.

Besides the big Warren Park Farm, there were Edgewood Stock Farm, home of Jersey Wilkes, owned by W. R. McKeen; Willow Ridge Farm, the

property of P. J. Kaufman; More Park, owned by Benjamin G. Cox; Forest Park Farm, owned by A. Bement; and Walnut Grove Farm, belonging to Layman Durham.

When the track was closed, Paul Kuhn of Terre Haute bought Forest Park Farm and there built a mile track of his own. He had bought The Harvester from C.K.G. Billings of Curles Neck Farm, near Richmond, Va.

The Harvester was one of the greatest trotters but he was a disappointment as a sire. The full effect of this did not materialize until after Kuhn bought him. He sired 258 performers (both trotters and pacers) with standard records but only five in the 2:05 list and none approaching his own record.

## Harvester Was Greatest

The Harvester, for which a cigar is named, made the record of 2:01 on September 23, 1910, as a 5-year-old, at Columbus, Ohio. Prior to this, however, the world's greatest trotting stallion had set records at Lexington and, in 1908, had won the Kentucky Futurity, bringing its owner \$16,000. A full-size picture of it is in the Hall of Fame of the Trotter in Goshen, N. Y.

It is fitting that the paintings of Nancy Hanks and Axtell be hung in the Terre Haute House as that hotel was the center of activity before and after each race. On the day Nancy Hanks made its record there, H. Hullman & Company, wholesale grocers, had the opening of a new warehouse. Hulman paid the fares for patrons from all over Indiana and Illinois and had 3,000 guests at a banquet at the hotel.

In memory of the four standardbreds that Terre Haute reveres, the Wabash Valley Fair Association named four of its annual races at the Vigo County Fair each year for them. Races at the Wabash Valley Fair Grounds' half-mile track are in the Indiana Colt Stake Circuit now.

Starting in 1953 and each year since, there have been a 2-year-old pacing stake race named for Nancy Hanks, a 3-year-old pacing-stake race for Robert J., a 2-year-old trot known as The Harvester Stake, and a Warren Park-Axtell Stake for 3-year-old trotters, inaugurated by Burch Ijams, son of the owner of Axtell.



# FROM TROTTING AND PACING GUIDE

NANCY HANKS--by Happy Medium, Terre Haute 1892 --2:04, (Doble)  
 Independence, Mo.--2:05½ by Doble 1892  
 Chicago--1892--2:07½--Doble  
 MASCOT, By Deceive, Terre Haute, 1892, 2:04, (W.J.Andrews)  
 THE ABBOT, by Chimes, Terre Haute, 1900, 2:03½ (E.F.Geers)  
 ROBERT J., by Hartford, Terre Haute, 1894, 2:01½ (E.F.Geers)  
 DAN PATCH, by Joe Patchen, was a world-champion pacer--(H.C.Hersey)

A TROTTER IS A STANDARD-BRED THAT RACES WITH A DIAGONALLY-GAITED MOTION. HIS LEFT FRONT AND RIGHT REAR LEGS MOVE FORWARD ALMOST SIMULTANEOUSLY, THEN THE RIGHT FRONT AND LEFT REAR

A PACER MOVES BOTH LEFT LEGS FORWARD IN UNISON, THEN BOTH RIGHT LEGS

AXTELL was the seventh from the top of \$500,000 for high priced harness horses. \$105,000 was paid for him as a three year old in 1889 by W.P.Ijams, John W. Conley and F. T. Moran.

THE HARVESTER, ~~2:52~~ \$51,000 was paid for this horse by C.K.G. Billings of Curles Neck Farm, near Richmond, Va. ~~2:52~~ in 1912. It was seven years old. Kuhn bought him from Billings

DAN PATCH, \$60,000 paid for it in 1903 by W. M. W. Savage of Minneapolis

HARVESTER made record of 2:01 at Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 23, 1910, as a five year p;d/

THE KENTUCKY FUTURITY, INAUGURATED IN 1893, ~~2:12~~ IS THE only one of the old stakes left

HARVESTER won this in 1908, worth \$16,000 that year. While Harvester was one of our greatest trotters he was a disappointment as a sire and the full effect of this did not materialize until after Mr. Kuhn bought him. He sired 258 performers (both trotters and pacers) with standard records but only five in the 2:05 list and none approaching his own record. *in Hall of Fame of the Trotter in Graham, N.Y. full-size pic*  
 Forest Park Farm horses was Kuhn's farm.

AXTELL was one of our great family-founding sires. He was the sire of Axworthy, 3, 2:15½, who in turn sired Lee Axworthy, 1:58½, for many years world's champion trotting stallion, and also sired Guy Axworthy, 4, 2:08 3/4. a stallion that figures prominently in a very large percent of our greatest performers of the present day. For instance, Guy Axworthy sired Guy Abbey, 3, 2:06 3/4 who in turn sired the trotting champion GREYHOUND, 1:55½. Most of the Axtell blood today is through Guy Axworthy.

ROBERT J. *by sired by Hartford* was a pacing gelding with a record of 2:01½, raced also by "Pop" Geers. *TH - 1894 - 2:01½ - Indpls 1894 - (geers) 2:02½ - Fort Wayne 1894 2:03¾*

AXTELL, 3, 2:12, was bred, trained and driven by C. W. Williams of Independence, Iowa, who raced him as a three-year-old, winning every start that season and reducing the world's record for three-year-old trotters five times during the season of 1889 from 2:18 to 2:12 (his best record\*). That record also was the world's record for trotting stallions when made. He took his record at Terre Haute, Oct. 11, 1889, to high-wheel sulkey. Then, following his sale to the syndicate composed of W. P. Ijams of T. H., John W. Conley of Chicago and F. T. Moran and A. E. Brush, both of Detroit. The sale was made at private treaty for \$105,000, the highest price ever paid at that time for a horse of any ~~the~~ breed. It also was generally understood that Budd Doble, then the nation's most prominent trainer and driver, was given a small interest in the horse to train and manage him.



## STARTED RACING AT FAIRGROUNDS IN 1950

by Happy Medium ~~sz~~ 400 out of a mare by Dictator 113. NANCY HANKS took her record of 2:04 at Terre Haute on Sept. 28, 1892, driven by Budd Doble. This was the first year of the bike ~~szkexznd~~ sulky. She was the first 2:05 trotter. She was foaled on the farm which is now Poplar Hill Farm, near Lexington, Ky., (owned in 1953 by Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Larkin of Chicago. NANCY HANKS was foaled in 1886, hence was six years old when made record. She was bred by Hart Boswell of Lexington and was a bay filly.

ROBERT J., 2:01½, a pacer, took his record Sept. 14, 1894, at Terre Haute, driven by E. F. Geers. He was one of the celebrated pacers of his time.

IN 1953, the Wabash Valley Fair Association named the Aug. 21 race <sup>and trophy</sup> two-year-old Pacing State Race for Nancy Hanks. This was due in Wabash Valley Fair and guaranteed purse was \$1,500. Her education was entrusted to Ben Kenney. --One of all-time greats in harness racing history.

That year there was a three-year-old pace in honor of the famous pacing gelding ROBERT J. Made record of 2:01½ on the old track. Made record on Sept. 14, 1894, after he had beaten practically all of the celebrated horses in the country for his age and gait. Purse of \$1,500 and appropriate trophy. Race Thursday, Aug. 20, 1953. during Harness Racing Meet.

Also in 1953, the Two year old trot was known as The Harvester Stake. Guaranteed purse of \$1,500. World's greatest trotting stallion, The Harvester. THE RACE IN ~~1953~~ WAS EXLXHZTEZXHZXZ IN THE INDIANA SZ COLT STATE CIRCUIT. --makes horses eligible to race at Ind. State Fair. HARVESTER had a cigar named after him. Record breaking at Columbus in 1910, as 5-year-old, but prior to this The Harvester set records at Lexington, Ky. In 1908, it won the Kentucky Futurity, netting its owner \$16,000.

In ~~24~~ 1952, BURCH ZE IJAMS INAUGURATED THE WARREN PARK-AXTEL STAKE at FAIRGROUNDS.

AXTEL--In 1885, Charles W. Williams, night operator in a telegraph office in Independence, Iowa, lived close to Dubuque, Iowa, where was located The Highland Stock Farm, a quite extensive and ambitious establishment. Williams frequently visited this farm and became interested in the breeding and pedigrees of trotters and was anxious to try and raise a few "on the side." At one of the farm's stock reducing sales, he bought two young maries, one for \$75 and one for \$125. He sent the two maries to Kentucky to breed to sons of George Wilkies. Shipped them there by freight car with orders to breed to the best Wilkies horses available and within his financial means. They foaled in the Spring of 1886. The \$125 non-Standard mare bred to an unknown three-year-old colt, produced the world-famous Axtrell. The \$75 crippled mare bred to a blind roan stallion, produced Allerton. They were trained and driven by Williams, who had never before attempted to do anything of the kind.

The day ~~sz~~ after record sold. Placed in the stud at the Warren Park Farm at the unhead of (at the time\* fee of \$1,000, he earned himself out in three years and sire famous horses.

In the season of 1889, Axtell, in addition to winning every start as a three year old, broke the world trotting record five times, reducing it from 2:18 to 2:12. Life size portrait in T. H. House. Unbeaten as 2-year-old.

Axtell was retired to pasture after three years of stud service and spent the next 13 years at the Warren Park Farm as something of a showpiece. Harnessmen from throughout the country made visits to the farm to see the horse that wrote a "rags to riches" story. Died in 1906.

PICTURES OF HARVESTER AND ~~EXLX~~ ROBERT J. AT FAIRBGROUNDS

STARTED RACING ~~sz~~ AT FAIRGROUNDS IN 1950, JOINED INDIANA CIRCUIT IN 1953 and THAT WAS FIRST YEAR OF FOUR SPECIAL EVENTS. \$1,500 added. FIRST YEAR ENTRIES FROM ALL OVER INDIANA, KENTUCKY, MO. ~~MIOWA~~, ILLINOIS



C.I. FLEMING, VETERINARIAN, 20 NORTH FIFTH STREET

THIRD RACE, THURSDAY, JULY 14. 2:16 PACE, PURSE \$800. HEATS, 3 in 5

1. THE ABBE, blk.h., by Chinns, Nettie King by Mambrino King. E. F. Geers, Memphis, Tenn., Driven by Geers  
black
2. Axme, 2:15 $\frac{1}{4}$ , br.H., by Axtell, by Spartan. J. E. Milks, Terre Haute. Driven by Niles  
purple
3. Kandy Onval, 2:17 $\frac{1}{4}$ , g.g., by Onval. Underwood Wilson, Bloomington, Ind., Driven by Swim.  
grey
4. Howtella, 2:17 $\frac{1}{4}$  b.m., by Howtee, Tillie A. by Onward. Hzz J. F. McFadden, Mt. Vernon, Ind. Pixley.  
white
5. Andy N.J., 2:25 $\frac{1}{4}$ , B.H., by Belleman, Rann by ~~Andal~~ Andalusia. A. B. Cummings, Reading, Pa., Driven by Cummings.  
green
6. Pearl Pick, b.m., by Silkwood. Dan Fenelon, Ripon, Wis. Driven by Fenelon  
orange
7. Prince Norbells, 2:17 $\frac{1}{4}$ , bg. by Norbells by Son of Piersons. Harry Stokes, Springfield, Ohio, Driven by Stokes  
plum
8. Nettie McEwen, 2:17 $\frac{1}{4}$  w.m., by Fred S. McEwen, Nettie Keenan. George Garth, Courtland, Ala. Driven by Garth  
lavender.

SPECIALS, THURSDAY, JULY 14. THREE YEAR OLD AND UNDER TROT, HEATS 2 in 3

- Baroness Helen (2) b.f., Baron Review, Durnella, 2:14 $\frac{1}{4}$ , by Axtell, S.J. Fleming  
purple & Son., Terre Haute, Ind., Driven by S.J. Fleming
- Greenbaum, (3) br.g., by Red Medium, Kaffa, 2:19 $\frac{1}{4}$  by Allerton. Lu Green, Jr.,  
lemon ~~Indianapolis~~ Indianola, Ill., Driven by Green

TO BEAT 2:30 $\frac{1}{4}$

- Marlander--br.g., by Martinmas, dam by Lowlander. S.J. Fleming and Son, Terre Haute.  
purple Driven by S. J. Fleming
- Miss Highwood, ch.m., by Highwood, dam by Alcantara. A. McDonald, Indianapolis,  
pink Driven by McDonald
- Baroness Park, b.g., by The DeForrest, Eminto by Emeny Boy. Forest Park Farm.  
blue Driven by McCarty.
- Baroness Review, (2) ro.f. by ~~The DeForrest~~ Baron Review. Miss  
brown Bonner by Axtell. Forest Park Farm. Driven by Eastman

TO BEAT 2:25 $\frac{1}{4}$

- Fantasma DeForrest (2) ro. F. by The DeForrest, Bay Light, Fanny by Bay Light.  
~~Forest~~ Forest Park Farm Driven by Murphy.  
red white and blue



FROM ROBERT MCPEAK

FROM ART SOUVENIR OF TERRE HAUTE, IND., 1894, PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE TERRE HAUTE GAZETTE.

PICTURE OF GRAND STAND AT THE GREAT 2:04 TERRE HAUTE TRACK

THE HOME OF THE TROTTER--Terre Haute is the home of Axtell, the phenomenal. The Terre Haute Race track is famous wherever the trotting horse is known and prized.

The 2:04 track in this city is the fastest in the world. All the greatest horses in America are trained here because of the climate, the soil, the grass and the track are the best.

The purse here, \$90,000 for a single meeting, are the largest ever offered anywhere.

But these are not the only distinctions for which the city is famous as the center of interest concerning the trotting horse. There are a number of great stock farms here. Very large sums are invested and more is being constantly added in the successful breeding and training of record-beating trotters and high-priced roadsters.

The principal stock farms are as follows:

Warren Park, the home of Axtell, owned by W. P. Ijams.

Edna Edgewood Stock Farm, the home of Jersey Wilkes, owned by Prest. W. R. McKeen.

Willow Ridge Farm, the property of P. J. Kaufman.

More Park, owned by Benjamin G. Cox.

Others are Walnut Grove Farm, Beechwood Stock Farm, Anton Mayer Farm, and John Pugh Farm, where coach horses are bred.

PICTURE FROM ROT:

WHEN TERRE HAUTE WAS A GRAND CIRCUIT RACING CENTER.\*\*TERRE HAUTE MATINEE CLUB GAVE A DINNER IN THE ORDINARY OF THE OLD TERRE HAUTE HOUSE IN 1906. SEATED, RIGHT TO LEFT: HOMER STEES, CLARENCE COLE, KNAPP MCCARTHY, C. F. HOLLINGSWORTH, ALEX WISHART, SAMUEL B. FLEMING, CHARLES NILES, WILLIAM L. MCPEAK, J. E. MILKS, W. C. ELY, BOB WRIGHT AND WILLIAM NATTKEMPER. STANDING: CHARLES TALLY, HUBERT HANNA, CHARLES BOLAND, SHELDON ANDERSON, HORACE TUNE, OSCAL HALL AND CARL POWERS.



# RACE PROGRAM

ON FRONT "FAREWELL TO THE GRAND CIRCUIT, 1910

~~12323~~ TERRE HAUTE TROTting AND FAIR ASSOCIATION, TERRE HAUTE, IND., OFFICIAL PROGRAM, GREAT WESTERN CIRCUIT MEETING, JULY 12, 13, 14 and 15, 1910.

W.C.ELY, PRES: J. W. THOMPSON, VICE PRES: FRANK MCKEEN, TRESS., AND C. I. FLEMING  
SEC. DIRECTORS: A.L.PFAU, W.L.MCPEAK, A.J. STEEN, C.J. ROOT AND CHARLES FOX.

JUDGES\*\*C.R. DUFFIN, STARTING JUDGE. TIMERS\*\*J.W.CZE THOMPSON, H. L. STEES AND  
JAMES CRAWFORD. CLERK OF COURSE, E. GILBERT: CLERK OF SCALES, O. R. CRAWFIS,  
AND MANAGER OF SCORE CARD, A. VERE SHAW.

FIRST RACE\*\*THURSDAY, JUL 14--2:16 TROT, PURSE \$1,000. Heats, 3 in 5.

1. Avane11, 2:16½, Br.M. by Allerton, Windson by Cyclone, E.F.Geers, Memphis, Tenn.,  
Black Driver by Geers
2. Motorcycle, 2:18 ¾, b.g., by Motor, Alice Shuff by Conductor. C. A. Chambers,  
Red Agent, Indianapolis, Ind., Driven by Chambers.
3. Captain George, b.s., by Admiral Dewey, by Thomas Jefferson. T.W.Murphy,  
Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Red, White, Blue. Driven by Murphy.
4. Madelle, 2:18 ¼, b.m., by Wilask, Blondelle by Wm.L. H.J.Lyons, Louisville,  
Violet and Black Ky. Driven by Selwage.
5. Fair Maiden, 2:22 ¼, b.m., by Prince of India, Buffalo Maid by Jerome Eddy.  
green Dick McMahon, Libertyville, Ill. Driven by McMahon.
6. Belle Colbert, 2:17½ ¾, b.m., by Colbert Belle by J.L., Dan Ezra Fenelon,  
orange Ripon, Wis., Driven by Fenelon
7. Jim Boyle, b.g., by Cornett. Charles Dean, Palatine, Ill., Driven by Dean  
black

SECOND RACE, THURSDAY, JULY 14. 2:13 PADE PURSE \$1,000az, Heats, 3 in 5.

1. Direct Hall Jr., 2:14½, b.s., by Direct Hal, Regents Last by Prince Regent.  
black E.F.Geers, Memphis, Tenn. Driven by Geers.  
Daisy G. by Jay Gould. C.A. Chambers,
2. Peter Pan, 2:12½ b.g., by DeCoursy, ~~IntzyzhyxCharlaxxWilkeszTzWzMurphyxBaughx~~  
red ~~xxxxsksx~~ Agent, Indianapolis. Driven by Chambers
3. May Day, 2:14½, b.m., by Commutation, July by Charley Wilkes. T.W.Murphy,  
red, white Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Driven by Murphy  
and blue
4. Prince S., 2:12½, Ch.H., by Cecelian Prince, Ruth Wilkes by Pavonia. ~~WzEz~~ E.W.  
blue McBride, Mobile, Ala., Driven by Rash.
5. Ashline, 2:12½ b.g., by Ashland Wilkes. Eoline by Aneto. E.B/Cummings, Reading,  
green Pa., Driven by Cummings
6. Oscar ~~Wz~~ Wilde, 2:12½ ch.h., by Menasha Boy, D.J.Fenelop, Ripon, Wis. Driven  
orange by Fenelon

TERRE HAUTE HOUSE ADVERTISED AS HEADQUARTERS FOR HORSEMEN



try to be wintered and trained there, making the track a year-round gathering place for race fans.

The Terre Haute Mile Track was opened in 1887, five years after the Terre Haute Trotting Association was organized. The period 1889 to 1910 was the heyday of racing in Terre Haute. After that, interest waned, the Grand Circuit races were no longer held there, the track was cut to half a mile.

However, in hope of keeping the spirit of racing in the city, a Matinee Club of 100 citizens was organized to hold matinee races every Friday during the season. This lasted six years, until the track was sold in 1916.

The best race season was in 1890. Then, an estimated \$3,000,000 worth of horses from over the country might appear in a single race. The purse often went as high as \$90,000 for a single meeting. The horses were world-wide celebrities, headed by Nancy Hanks and the great Terre Haute horse, Axtell.

The great Dan Patch ran at the track but did not set a record.

GUESTS AT the Terre Haute House today get a glimpse of the city's famous past in the racing world

when they view the huge oil paintings of these two horses in the hotel's lobby.

This is a fitting place for these paintings, because at this hotel—since rebuilt on the same site—fans gathered after the races. Probably the biggest after-the-race crowd jammed the hotel on the night of Sept. 28, 1892.

That day Nancy Hanks had taken the world's mile trotting record of 2:04. The normal crowd was expanded by some 3,000 guests at a banquet given by H. Hulman & Co., wholesale grocers, which was opening a new warehouse. Earlier that day the diners had been guests of the company at the track.

IT WAS Oct. 9, 1889, that Axtell established the world's trotting record of 2:12 for stallions. The horse, owned, bred, trained and driven by Charles W. Williams of Independence, Ia., was driven to a high-wheeled, steel-tired sulky with no windbreaks, as were all trotters and pacers at that time.

Axtell won every start that season and reduced the world's record for 3-year-old trotters five times from 2:18 to 2:12. Axtell brought \$105,000

(Continued on Next Page)



A portrait of the famous Axtell is one of two paintings of great racers in the lobby of the Terre Haute House hotel. The other is of Nancy Hanks.

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**WHERE RECORDS WERE**

**MADE AND BROKEN**

(Continued from Page 35)

—then the highest price ever paid for a horse of any breed—the day after his record-breaking race at Terre Haute. Buyers were W. P. Ijams of Terre Haute, John W. Conley of Chicago and F. T. Moran and A. E. Brush, both of Detroit.

The day Nancy Hanks set her record she was driven to a bike sulky with pneumatic tires when she made the world's trotting record of 2:04 at the Terre Haute track. She was the first 2:05 trotter. The bay filly's record was matched the following day at Terre Haute by a pacer, Mascot, which also was a world's record.

Robert J., for whom a 3-year-old Pacing Stake Race is named, made a world's record of 2:01½ at the Terre Haute track on Sept. 14, 1894. This 3-year-old gelding had beaten practically all of the celebrated pacers in the country for its age and gait.

The fourth race at the Vigo County Fair this year will be a 2-year-old trot known as The Harvester Stake. The Harvester was the world's greatest trotting stallion at the time, having won the Kentucky Futurity and netting its owner \$16,000 in 1908. It made a record of 2:01 on Sept. 23, 1910, as a 5-year-old at Columbus, O., and had set records at Lexington and raced at Terre Haute.

Paul Kuhn of Terre Haute bought The Harvester from C. K. G. Billings of Curles Neck Farm, near Richmond, Va., and kept it at his Forest Park Farm. He had a mile track of his own there, built when the "four-cornered" track was closed. So famous was this stallion that a cigar was named for him and a full-sized picture of him is in the Hall of the Trotter in Goshen, N.Y.

**B**ESIDES KUHN'S and Warren Park Farms, there were other great stock farms in Terre Haute in those days.

Large sums also were invested in successful breeding and training of record-breaking trotters and high-priced roadsters.

There were the Edgewood Stock Farm, home of Jersey Wilkes, owned by W. R. McKeen; Willow Ridge Farm, property of P. J. Kaufman; More Park, the Benjamin G. Cox Farm, and Walnut Grove Farm, that of Lyman Durham.

Sam I. Fleming also bred, trained and drove horses for the track, and on a small farm, kept two fine stallions, Margrave and Baron Review. Baron Virginia, sired by Baron Review, won the Kentucky Futurity one year. In the early spring of each year, Fleming had a big sale of from 400 to 500 horses. He drove John M., gelding owned by Demas Deming of Terre Haute, which won all 14 of the Grand Circuit \$1,000 races for green trotters in one year.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★